



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of COLUMBUS

Application No. 10/074,900

Filed: February 12, 2002

For: CARTRIDGE FOR CONTAINING A
SPECIMEN SAMPLE FOR OPTICAL
ANALYSIS

Attorney Docket No. 1477-P02227US1

Group Art Unit: 1743

Examiner: Dwayne K. Handy

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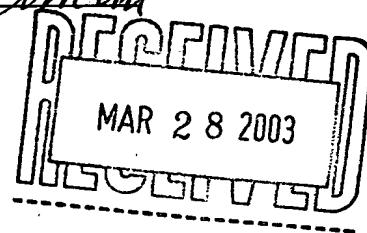
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FEBRUARY 19, 2003
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Henry H. Skillman

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-entitled application as follows:

Amend paragraphs 20 and 23 of the specification as set forth in **Attachment A-1**. A clean copy of the amended paragraphs is set forth in **Attachment A-2**.

Amend claim 15 as set forth in **Attachment A-3**. A clean copy of the claims as amended is set forth in **Attachment A-4**.

Please substitute the attached sheet containing Fig. 1 for the sheet filed with the application.

REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are submitted to correct informalities noted by Examiner Brian Gordon in the corresponding PCT application No. PCT/US02/04124. The informalities relate to the double use of the reference character 37, the absence of reference character 55 in the drawings, and the lack of antecedent for "system" in claim 15.

It is noted that Fig. 1 has been amended to change the reference character 37 to 371 where it identifies the objective lens.